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Report from Nuevitas.

NUEVITAS, CUBA, *October 4, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ended Saturday, September 30, 1899:

Since the recovery of the case of yellow fever reported on September 16, none others have developed, so that, with the thorough disinfection that was done of the infected premises, it may be safely said that no focus of infection was, on this occasion, established. * * *

Five vessels arrived at this station during the week and 5 bills of health were issued. The mortality report of this city for the period of this report is inclosed.

Respectfully, yours,

T. F. RICHARDSON,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Mortality report for week ended September 30, 1899.

NUEVITAS, CUBA, *September 30, 1899.*

September 27: Arterio-sclerosis, 1 (old man).

J. R. ARIZA,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

FRANCE.

Precautions against the introduction of plague.

NANTES, FRANCE, *September 29, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward you the following information regarding what is being done to prevent the introduction of the plague into France:

The director of health at the port of St. Nazaire has recently received from the minister of the interior a circular containing explicit instructions regarding the precautions to be taken to prevent the introduction of the plague at any of the ports along the west coast of France. The prefect is instructed to notify mayors of all the municipalities what steps to take in all of the various towns along the coast. The circular calls the attention of the authorities to the great danger likely to arise from the visits of small fishing boats owned along the French coast, and which frequently call at Spanish and Portuguese ports for bait, and afterwards come to France to dispose of their catch, or for other purposes. These small boats are regarded as a greater source of danger than the large ships which come into the regular ports where there are regular sanitary officers. The director of health in the city of Nantes informs me that it is very difficult to watch these small boats, as owing to their insignificance in size, they often make landings under cover of darkness at very small ports away from the regular health officers. The health officer at the port of St. Nazaire is instructed to name physicians in all of the coast towns under his jurisdiction, to act as health officers. These health officers are to keep a vigilant lookout for any of the small French boats. As soon as one of these boats approaches the shore, the sanitary officer will swear the officers and crew, and question them whether they have visited any Portuguese or Spanish ports, or

whether they have had any communication with the same. Should any suspicious cases of sickness be on board, the parties will be sent at once to the lazaretto, and the boat quarantined. Any captain of a vessel, any doctor, or health officer, who officially alters any facts regarding sickness on board any vessel, and the plague spreads in consequence of such neglect, the offending official will be punished by death. The circular further states, that if these boats continue to call at Spanish or Portuguese ports, an edict may be issued forbidding their landing at any of the French ports. These fishing boats are very numerous along the coast of this consular district, in the departments of Vendée, Loire Inférieure, Morbihan, and Finistère. At present there are not many merchant vessels coming from Spanish or Portuguese ports, partly owing to the fact that Nantes merchants fear the cargoes might not be permitted to land.

Respectfully, yours,

JOSEPH I. BRITTAIN.

United States Consul at Nantes, France.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

ITALY.

Weekly report from Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, *September 30, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended September 27, 1899, the following ship was inspected: On September 22 the steamship *Archimede* of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 879 steerage and 7 cabin passengers, and 947 pieces of small and 500 pieces of large baggage.

The case of suspected plague that was mentioned in my report of September 16, proved not to be plague. It seems that the Italian Government caused two medical officers to be sent to Asinara to investigate the case, and upon their report the quarantine officer who remanded the vessel to Asinara was dismissed.

On September 23, there arrived at Genoa, Italy, the steamship *Sirio*, from Buenos Ayres, with yellow fever on board. There were 5 deaths from this disease during the voyage. Several cases were found aboard upon the vessel's arrival at Genoa, whereupon the vessel was remanded to Asinara.

Respectfully, yours,

VICTOR G. HEISER,

Assistant Surgeon U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON GENERAL,

U. S. Marine Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

Report of infectious disease.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *September 2, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith, my report of infectious disease in Japan for period August 21 to August 31.

Of the cases of so-called cholera returned from Tokyo, it is in my opinion, more than doubtful whether a single one is genuine, similar returns having been made throughout the season, with no evident tendency to become epidemic manifesting itself.

Respectfully, yours,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.